



Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Late 2010 Summer Newsletter

National Retrofit Guidelines Available this Fall Designed for use by retrofit program administrators!

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is finalizing guidelines for residential energy efficiency retrofit work. These include standard work specifications (work standards); job task analyses and knowledge, skills and abilities for four retrofit job classifications; and a reference guide for technical standards relevant to residential retrofits. As stated by DOE, the goals of the *Retrofit Guidelines* are to:

1. Enable residential retrofit program administrators and state and local weatherization officials and others to strengthen their field guides and other work manuals by incorporating the high quality Standard Work Specifications contained in the Retrofit Guidelines
2. Assist training providers in developing course content and curricula consistent with an industry-recognized suite of Job Task Analyses
3. Increase workforce mobility up career ladders and across career lattices by establishing a clear set of essential Knowledge, Skills and Abilities upon which worker credentials should be based
4. Build confidence amongst consumers and the energy efficiency finance community that retrofit work will be completed in a quality manner and produce the expected energy savings and health benefits
5. Lay the foundation for a more robust worker certification and training program accreditation architecture.

Mark your calendars! The guidelines are set to be released for public comment in October. DOE hosted a webinar in August and you can find the slides [here](#). More information on the Retrofit Guidelines is available [here](#).

Record Breaking Job Reports!

Thanks to our hard working contractors across the country, HPwES is on track to exceed our 2010 national goal of 30,000 installations! With over 30 sponsors reporting for the first half of 2010, the total number of jobs is over 15,900. As HPwES becomes the go-to existing home energy efficiency program in the country we hope you will continue to help us achieve greater goals in the future.

Quality Assurance All Around

Quality Assurance (QA) is an essential feature of every HPwES program. In addition to promoting rigorous QA to our sponsor and contractors, EPA has initiated a comprehensive review of our programmatic processes and establishing more defined internal management systems. The purpose of this review is to make our national program more robust and consistent. We will also be extending our QA reviews to include site visits to some program sponsors starting this Fall. We will certainly be providing info on what we are looking to review – should be a great learning exercise for all. Stay tuned....

Sponsor Spotlight: Arizona Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program

Speaking of ramping up... on March 17, 2010 the Arizona Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program (operated by FSL Home Improvements) and supported by Arizona Public Service (APS) launched a strong home performance campaign with aggressive audit and improvement goals. On July 28, 2010, the program reached its goal of 1,000 homes, some five months ahead of schedule.

Since March, over 300 homes in the Phoenix metropolitan community have received energy upgrades as a result of the comprehensive Home Performance with ENERGY STAR audits. FSL Home Improvements provides quality assurance and oversight by performing desk reviews on 100% of all energy audit submitted by the contractors. . Furthermore, FSL is performing field inspections on 15% of all HPwES projects - 10% higher than national HPwES requirements. FSL has learned the value of extended mentorship and training to help contractors meet program requirements and make a good living!

Other Arizona utilities are considering home performance programs and are considering “plugging into” the strong network of BPI certified contractors that participate in the Arizona Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program. Well done AZ Home Performance!

EPA Welcomes New Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Sponsors this summer!

- [Utah Home Performance](#) sponsored by the Utah State Energy Program (USEP)
- [Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative](#)
- [Dominion East Ohio](#)

Northern Virginia Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program - Update

EPA and DOE, in coordination with Building Performance Institute, launched the Northern Virginia Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program in March of this year. The purpose of the program is to evaluate the feasibility of transferring some roles of a Program Sponsor (e.g. quality assurance) to other organizations and answer questions relevant to the future design of the program. Some questions being considered include:

- Can BPI accreditation alone replace program quality assurance?
- Should HPwES be defined as a package of improvements that is estimated save 20% or more on total energy use?
- How can a sponsor process jobs when a contractor can choose from a variety of approved energy modeling software programs?
- What specific data must be checked to provide and adequate quality assurance review?
- Can a common reporting schema and electronic data transfer reduce a contractor’s administrative burden

Upcoming Events

Event	Location	Date
<u>Remodeling Show</u>	Baltimore, MD	September 14 – 17, 2010
<u>ACI New England</u>	Sturbridge, MA	October 6 – 7, 2010
<u>Utah ENERGY STAR Summit</u>	Sandy, UT	October 8, 2010
<u>EEBA Conference and Expo</u>	Portland, OR	October 12 – 14, 2010
<u>HARDI Annual Conference</u>	Houston, TX	October 23 – 26, 2010
<u>Colorado ENERGY STAR Summit</u>	Denver, CO	December 8 – 9, 2010
<u>ACI California Conference 2011</u>	Los Angeles, CA	January 10 – 11, 2011
<u>ACI Northwest Conference 2011</u>	Portland, OR	February 1 – 2, 2011
<u>ACCA Conference</u>	San Antonio, TX	February 15 –17, 2011
<u>RESNET Conference</u>	Orlando, FL	February 28 – March 2, 2011
<u>ACI National Home Performance Conference</u>	San Francisco, CA	March 28 – April 1, 2011